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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/523,776

02/08/2005

Mitsuaki Oshima

YAMAP0966US

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09/15/2006

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EXAMINER

CHEN, TIANJIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2627

DATE MAILED: 09/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/523,776

Applicant(s)

OSHIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Non-Final Rejection

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. PCT/JP03/10185, filed on 08/08/2003.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-6 in the reply filed on 09/08/2006 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Diezmann et al (US 6,044,046).

Claim 1; Diezmann et al shows an optical disc CD including: an antenna 11 (Column 3, lines 19-23) formed along a circumferential direction; and an IC 12 (Column 3, line 49 and column 2, lines 16-17) for transmitting/receiving radio waves via the antenna (Column 3, lines 19-25).

Claim 2, Diezmann et al further shows an information layer 3 (Column 5, line 39) to/from which information can be recorded/reproduced.

Art Unit: 2627

Claim 3, Diezmann et al further shows that antenna 11 and the IC 12 is provided in an inner peripheral portion of the optical disc, and the information layer is provided in an outer peripheral portion of the optical disc (Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Diezmann et al in view of Fuentes et al (US 5,862,117).

Claim 4, Diezmann et al shows an optical disc as described above, wherein the IC includes: a receiving section for receiving the radio waves (Step S5 in Fig. 5b); a signal generation section for generating a signal including in response to a signal output from the receiving section (S7 and S8 in Fig. 5b); and a transmitting section for transmitting the signal (S11-S13 in Fig. 5b).

Diezmann et al shows that the IC has security structure (Column 2, lines 36-42) but does not specify the structure. Fuentes et al shows a disk having an IC 12, which has a section for storing ID information (Abstract, lines 9-11).

Since checking the identification is a commonly used notorious method as a security measure used in the art. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of skill in the art to add the identification code into Diezmann et al's

Art Unit: 2627

device as the security structure. The signal generated in such constructed device would include ID information.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

- With regard to claims 5 and 6, as the closest reference on record, Diezmann et al (US 6,044,046) and Fuentes et al (US 5,862,117) discloses a remote control apparatus for performing wireless communication with the optical disc according to claim 4, comprising: a transmitting section for transmitting radio waves to the optical disc; a receiving section for receiving a response signal from the optical disc; **but fails to shows** an ID reproduction section for reproducing ID information in response to an output from the receiving section.
- Applicant asserts "With such an optical disc, a system which can search for ID information of an optical disc from a recording/reproduction apparatus over radio waves can be provided" (Specification, p. 2).

Conclusion


6. The prior art made of record in PTO-892 Form and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 2627

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER